DOCUMENT RESUME

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TITLE	ABC's of Supervision [and] Safe Playgrounds [and] The Nuts and Bolts of Playground Maintenance. [Videotapes].
INSTITUTION	Northern Iowa Univ., Cedar Falls. School of Health, Physical Education, and Leisure Services.
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AVAILABLE FROM	National Program for Playground Safety, University of Northern Iowa, School of HPELS, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0618; Tel: 800-554-7529 (Toll-Free); Fax: 319-273-7308 (3-videos, $29.98 each).
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ABSTRACT

Citing evidence that many of the nation's playgrounds are not safe for children, these three videotapes examine three areas of playground safety: supervising children during outdoor play, designing safe playgrounds, and maintaining playground equipment. The 13-minute "ABC's of Supervision" provides supervisors' strategies for preventing injuries, illustrated with footage of playground play. The major areas of supervision discussed are: (1) anticipating potential problems; (2) behavior; and (3) context. The 13-minute "Safe Playgrounds" provides an overview of: the importance of supervision; age appropriate design; falls to surfaces; and equipment maintenance for playground safety. The 11-minute "The Nuts and Bolts of Playground Maintenance" discusses the steps involved in maintaining a safe playground, advocating that maintenance plans be developed prior to playground construction and that they be proactive, be year-round, involve designated staff, and require documentation. The video explains the types of playground hazards of concern, including equipment damage due to weather exposure, protrusions, entrapment hazards, and pinch or crunch hazards. Five types of equipment are examined for common injuries: climbers, slides, swings, merry-go-rounds, and seesaws. The importance of keeping a written maintenance plan and written maintenance records is also discussed. (KB)

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